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Message Text

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44
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-11 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAB-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 NEAE-00 SCCT-01 /083 W
---------- 000083
P R 161132Z JAN 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9265
INFO USMISSION USUN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR EG XF
SUBJECT: UNSC ME DEBATE

REFC (A) CAIRO 487, (B) CAIRO 549, (C) FBIS NICOSIA NC151755Y,

1. CAIRO PRESS JANUARY 16 DOWNPLAYS ONGOING UNSC ME DEBATE AND TO AVOIDS ANY COMMENTARY ON INTER-ARAB DIFFERENCES OF SPECULATION ON POSSIBILITY FO US VETO. GUMHURIYYA VIRTUALLY IGNORES ENTIRE UNSC DEBATE, WHILE AKHBAR CONCEDES THAT, ALTHOUGH THERE SOME DIFFERENCES WITHIN FIVE-NATION ARAB DRAFING COMMITTEE CONCERNING FINAL WORDING OF ARAB RESOLUTIONS, ARABS BASICALLY WAITING UNTIL DEBATE FURTHER ALONG BEFORE SUBMITTING RESOLUTIONS. AKHBAR'S MUSA SABRI, REPORTING FROM NEW YORK, CITES EGYPTIAN PERMREP 'ADB AL-MAGID'S
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COMMENT THAT THERE WILL BE TWO ARAB RESOLUTIONS, ONE

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PALESTINIAN AND ONE ON GENERAL ME SITUATUON,BUT PROVIDES
NO DETAILS.

2. AHRAM SCARCELY MENTIONS UNSC DEBATE ON FRONT PAGE, BUT
DOES PROVIDE SOME COVERAGE OF SPEECHES ON INSIDE PAGES.
SOVIET PERMREP MALIK'S CALL FOR RESUMPTION OF MEPC WITH
PARTICIPATION OF PLO DULY RECORDED, AS IS PLEA BY BRITISH
PERMREP RICHARES THAT ANY RESOLUTION PRODUCED BY UNSC
DEBATE ASSIST, RATHER THAN HINDER, ME PEACE PROCESS. AHRAM
ALSO REPORTS THAT PLO RESOLUTION TO CONTAIN RECOGNITION
OF PALESTINIAN RIGHTS AND TO SET UP TIME-TABLE FOR ISRAELI
WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, WHILE ME RESOLUTION
(SPONSOR NOT NAMED) TO REQUEST ESTABLISHMENT OF PALESTINIAN
ENTITY, COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORIES,
AND RESUMPTION OF MEPC WITH PLO PARTICIPATION.

3. ALL PAPERS CARRY LONG STATEMENT BY DEPPRIMIN/FONMIN FAHMY
TO MENA THAT EGYPT INSISTS ON PLO PARTICIPATION IN MEPC
IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECISIONS TAKEN AT RABAT SUMMIT,AND REFUSES
ANY ATTEMPS TO OMIT PLO FROM ANY STAGES OF ME PEACE PROCESS
(FULL TEXT REF C). FAHMY MAKES NO RPT NO REFERENCE TO
JANUARY 13 STATEMENT BY PRESIDENT SADAT THAT EGYPT WOULD BE
WILLING ATTEND MEPC WITHOUT PLO, IF FIRST ITEM ON AGENDA IS
PLO PARTICIPATION.

4. COMMENT: EGYPTIAN PRESS CLEARLY CONSIDERS UNSC AS
TIME-BOMB TO BE HANDLED GINGERLY. NO SIGNIFICANT
EDITORIAL COMMENT HAS YET APPEARED PREDICTING OR
URGING SPECIFIC OUTCOME FROM DEBATE AND EGYPTIAN ROLE
IN PROCEEDINGS BEGINNING TO BE DOWNPLAYED. AHRAM CARRIES
FRONT-PAGE ITEM FROM REUTERS IN TEL AVIV, REAFFIRMING
ISRAELI REFUSAL TO ATTEND MEPC IF PLO PARTICIPATES, BUT
PRESS COMPLETELY IGNORES COMMENTS BY ISRAELI PERMREP
HERZOG REPORTEDLY PRAISING EGYPTIAN WILLINGNESS TO ATTEND
MEPC TO DEBATE QUESTION OF "PLO" REPRESENTATION AND
AFFIRMING ISRAELI WILLINGNESS TO DISCUSS "PALESTINIAN"
PARTICIPATION INMEPC. FAHMY MENA STATEMENT ON PLO
PARTICIPATION IN MEPC APPEARS TO BE RETREAT FROM POSITION
VOICED BY SADAT ON JANUARY 13 (PARA 3 REFTEL A). FAHMY
STATEMENT MAY, IN FACT, HAVE BEEN DESIGNED TO SPARE EGYPT
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CRITICISM FROM OTHER ARAB STATES WHICH COULD ARGUE THAT
SADAT UNDERCUTTING PLO POSITION AND PLAYING INTO ISRAELI
HANDS, A CHARGE THAT HERZOG COMMENTS COULD TEND TO
REINFORCE.
EILTS

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NNN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 16 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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